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STATE HIGHWAY DEPT. DESIRES A CONCRETE PAVED ROADWAY ON M-46 FROM ALMA THROUGH TO SAGINAW

Has Recommended to the Gratiot County Road Commissioners that Funds Be Supplied by County for Its Share of Road from St. Louis to Breckenridge this Coming Year.

PLAN REST OF WORK IN COUNTY ON THE TRUNK LINE FOR 1924

If Gratiot County will furnish its share of the money needed the state highway department will pave M-46 east from Alma to the county line, in accordance with its desires for a paved roadway from Alma to Saginaw. So desirous is the state department to have this work done that recommendations to this end have been made to the Gratiot highway commission.

On Friday, September 29, a committee, consisting of Wm. E. Reynolds, city manager, Secretary Crawford of the Chamber of Commerce, H. S. Babcock and John C. Chick, all of Alma, visited Frank F. Rogers, state highway commissioner, and inquired as to the road program for Gratiot in 1923, and it was then that definite word was received that this was the intention of the department.

Mr. Rogers called attention to the fact that because of the intense amount of traffic on the road between Alma and Saginaw it was impossible to economically gravel this road and keep it in good condition, necessitating a more substantial paved road.

It was brought out that recommendations have been made to the Gratiot road commission that the county raise the amount necessary to provide for the paving of the five and one-half miles of paving between St. Louis and Breckenridge, which it is intended to pave in 1923. He said that it would be necessary for the county to have this money in the spring of 1923 to start the preliminary work with as the state department would not have any more funds available until the bonds are sold July 1, 1923, from the state bond issue. The estimated cost of the pavement from St. Louis to Breckenridge is estimated at \$165,000, of which the county's share would be approximately \$41,000, or less than one mill spread on the entire county, through the county budget and would hardly be felt by the taxpayers.

The state department plans to construct the paved road from Breckenridge east to the county line and from Alma to St. Louis in 1924, at the end of which year the entire amount of the fifty million dollar state bond issue will have been spent.

It has been pointed out that during the past year it has cost over \$8,000 to gravel and keep in repair the road that it is proposed to have next year, which over a five year period would pay the entire cost of paving the road from St. Louis to Breckenridge. This road has been a troublesome one during the fall, especially during the time of the beet hauling, when wet weather is usually had, and is at times unable to withstand the heavy traffic that is put upon it.

While not exactly connected with the state road program it is worthy of note that last week a committee of three members of the board of supervisors made a tour of Gratiot interviewing township road boards, supervisors, etc., regarding Gratiot's road program for the coming year. Friday evening this committee was in Alma and met with interested Alma people. It also during the week met with people in St. Louis and Breckenridge, who are vitally interested in the trunk line road. This committee consisted of C. A. Coryell, John Colby, and George Reed.

On Friday evening of this week a road meeting will be held in Alma at which a number of people interested in the promotion of the paved trunk line highway to Saginaw have been invited.

On the following day the Gratiot County Road Commissioners will make up their budget for submission to the board of supervisors, who meet next week. If this paving program outlined by the state department is to go through it will be necessary for the supervisors of the county to provide the financial means of securing the funds for the county's share of the cost of this road.

It is being pointed out that this paved road from Saginaw to Alma, would prove a big benefit to all people of the county who might desire to go to Saginaw. It is also being pointed out that the four northern townships of the county with Alma and St. Louis provide 46% of the tax of the county and 49 per cent of the population of the county. If the county supervisors should provide an extra mill in the road tax for the purpose of providing for the county's share of this work Alma alone would pay about \$10,000 of the money, or almost a quarter of the total of the county. Such a road would be a wonderful benefit to every township in the northern part of the county and to every one of the towns and cities.

It is estimated that during the summer months there were 250,000-000 picture post cards mailed to and from the United States by traveling vacationists.

DR. McGAW TO SPEAK

Among the men who are doing a real and lasting work for a better social and civic life in this country, who are especially effective in the work of agitation and education in the direction of bigger and better public ideals, the Rev. James S. McGaw, D.D., has a prominent and important place. He even puts political philosophy in such an attractive way, throws so much of a sort of Irish wit into it, that nobody ever wearies of hearing him. He has a keen analytical mind, a comprehensive grasp of the whole system of Christian political philosophy, a pleasing voice and a ready command of happy illustration.

GOOD HEALTH MEETING

The Gratiot County Good Health Society will hold a meeting Monday evening, October 9, at 7:30, at the city hall here. The meeting is called for the purpose of electing four directors and such other business as may come before the meeting.

Mrs. V. H. Shepard, Secretary.

A WELL KNOWN RESIDENT DEAD

JOHN F. GONGWER PASSED AWAY AT HOME OF DAUGHTER IN OHIO SUNDAY.

John Gongwer, a well known resident of this city for over a score of years, died at the home of his daughter, in Ashland, Ohio, early Sunday, October 1, after a long illness. Mr. and Mrs. Gongwer had gone to Ashland to spend the winter with their daughter, just two weeks prior to his death.

John F. Gongwer was born in Ashland county, Ohio, September 26, 1852, and was 70 years of age at the time of his death. He was married in 1881 to Alice Stealy, two children being born to this union, Carrie E. Wharton of Ashland, and Guy S., who died about six months prior to his father.

They lived in Ohio for about twenty years, moving to Alma in the fall of 1901. He worked for the Alma plant of Swift & Company for a number of years. His health failing, he was forced to give up his work January 1, 1922. September 15, he went with Mrs. Gongwer to the home of his daughter in Ohio, where he passed away Sunday.

He is survived by his wife, a daughter and five brothers. Mr. Gongwer was a member of the M. E. church of this city.

The funeral services were held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Carrie E. Wharton, at Ashland, on Tuesday, where interment was also made.

WOOD IS DEPUTY
E. M. Wood has been appointed as a deputy sheriff by the sheriff of Gratiot county to succeed Joseph Grover, who was a candidate for the nomination for sheriff at the recent primary.

Mrs. Perciville Howe of Toronto and Miss Lora Jeckell of Exeter, Ontario, spent the week end in this city, guests at the home of her aunts, Mrs. A. W. Wright and Miss Case.

SUPREME COURT IN THE EIGHTH DISTRICT FIGHT

VINCENT CERTIFIED AS NOMINEE BY MICHIGAN'S SECRETARY OF STATE.

Outcome is Still Regarded Uncertain

The congressional fight in the Eighth district of Michigan is still going on, the developments of the past week being the writ of mandamus sought by William M. Smith of St. Johns, the apparently defeated candidate, to compel the Saginaw Board of Canvassers to recount the vote in certain precincts in that county in which the ballots were secured in the ballot boxes as required by law, but the packages of which did not bear the endorsements that are required; and the issuing of the certificate of nomination by Secretary of State Deland, certifying to the clerk of the six counties of the district, the nomination of Bird J. Vincent as the Republican candidate.

The recount by the Saginaw board was brought to a finish on Friday of last week, at which time the attorneys for William M. Smith notified the Saginaw board that the writ of mandamus was being sought in the Supreme Court of Michigan to compel the Saginaw board to recount the ballots properly sealed in the ballot boxes, but not properly endorsed. The Saginaw board was asked to continue in session until the Supreme Court had acted on the matter.

The Saginaw board informed Smith's attorneys that it had recounted the Saginaw vote as permitted by law, taking the official count for such precincts as could not properly be recounted, because of improper sealing of ballot boxes or improper endorsements, and refusing to remain in session certified to the Saginaw returns and adjourned. The recount in Saginaw county showed a net loss to Vincent of ten votes.

Early Monday Secretary of State Deland certified to the nomination of Bird J. Vincent, who on the face of the recount in the six counties was nominated by a larger vote than the official canvass gave him, and the county clerks of Saginaw, Shiawassee, Clinton, Ionia, Montcalm and Gratiot counties were notified, thus enabling them to prepare to print the ballots for the November election.

Monday afternoon the Supreme Court issued an order on the petition of William M. Smith directing the Saginaw board of canvassers to appear before the Supreme Court this afternoon (Thursday) and show cause why it should not recount the ballots in certain wards in the City of Saginaw, and townships of Saginaw county.

The precincts which are in dispute in Saginaw county in this angle of the recount had their ballot boxes sealed properly, but the packages were not indorsed by the inspectors (Continued on page two)

ENTERTAINED AT PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Rollin of Emerson Center entertained 75 of their friends Friday evening, the occasion being their 15th wedding anniversary. Dancing formed the evening's diversion. Music was furnished by the Bartlett Bros. and Ollie Canfield. A three course luncheon was served at midnight and dancing was then continued until 2:30 a. m.

The out of town guests were Mrs. H. Chedister, Guy A. Chedister, Orville A. Chedister, Kenneth E. Chedister, Carl W. Chedister and wife, Mrs. Harold L. Walz, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford and Miss Norma Arnold, all of Flint.

SPEAKS HERE SUNDAY

Rev. Frederick E. Stockwell, D. D., Associate Secretary of the General Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church, New York City, is to speak in the College chapel Sunday afternoon, October 8th, at 4 o'clock. Everyone is cordially invited to avail himself of this opportunity.

HEALTH CRUSADE GETS ENROLLMENT

DEVICE FOR TEACHING HYGIENE PROVING POPULAR IN GRATIOT SCHOOLS.

Knight of the Bath! If that isn't their official title it ought to be, for they win their spurs by royal achievements with soap and towels and toothbrushes. At the dinner table, too, they exercise the knightly virtues of wisdom and self-control, for teacher says that health crusade means being wise and brave about coffee and pickles and too much candy. And just like the Round Table Knights they are avowed to be honorable and pure and helpful every day.

Who are they? Why, Gratiot county Modern Health Crusaders, enrolled in a statewide crusade under the auspices of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association. The State Departments of Health and Public Instruction have lent their assistance to the project and call it practical hygiene and habit formation through the enlisting of interest; but it's all pure joy to Skinny and his crew.

Of course it's serious, too, in a way. A fellow has to do all sorts of things: clean his nails every day, and keep his teeth out of his mouth, and use his handkerchief when he sneezes, and all the rest of the stuff man's always been doing about. But it's different once you call it a Crusade. You have a roll of honor and badges and pins, and after you've done the health chores for your service long enough, they knight you with a real lath sword, and say, "Rise, Sir Knight, and all, just the way it is in King Arthur.

Gratiot county schools expect to enroll two thousand of these loyal servants of health. A report from State crusade headquarters at the office of the Michigan Tuberculosis association gives the present state enrollment as over 7,000.

Attorney John D. Spinney was in Lansing on business Monday.

REPUBLIC MOTOR TRUCK CO. INC., IN A FRIENDLY RECEIVERSHIP IS THE COMPANY'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Republic Truck Sales Corporation is Not Affected by the Receivership of the Parent Company, Which Will Continue Under the Same Management as Formerly.

SECURITY TRUST COMPANY OF DETROIT NAMED AS RECEIVER

Announcement was made on Friday of the appointment of the Security Trust Company of Detroit as the receiver for the Republic Motor Truck Co., Inc., on the previous day by Judge Arthur Tuttle of the Federal Court at Detroit, the receivership, a friendly one, being appointed with the concurrence of the company with its largest creditors. It is regarded as a step that is necessary in connection with the carrying out of a plan of reorganization of the company.

The business of the company is being continued under the receivership with Colonel Frank E. Smith in charge of operations at the factory here. It is stated that the details of the proposed plan of reorganization will be made public as soon as is practicable. Press dispatches from Detroit, where the receivership was secured, show that the company has assets of seven million dollars. The liabilities are listed at five million dollars.

The announcement of the receivership for the factory carries with it the statement that The Republic Truck Sales Corporation is in no way affected by the receivership of the parent company and that the sales corporation will continue to handle its business as formerly and will be in charge of the same efficient management.

During the time that the present management has been in charge of The Republic Motor Truck Co., Inc., the company has made excellent strides, which in the face of present conditions cannot be seen by the casual observer, and many people have not given Col. Smith and his aids the real credit that belongs to them. There is no question but what his efforts in the past months have done wonders in lightening the burden that has been resting on the company. Alma people cannot commend his efforts too highly, his faith in the Republic and his tireless efforts having been a wonderful factor in putting affairs of the company in such a shape that it now gives every promise of weathering the business and financial depression in this country and making possible a future reorganization that will keep up the Republic's pace in the truck world. With the coming of the receivership an inventory of the factory is being made, necessitating somewhat of a cessation of activities for a short time. It is anticipated that this will be quickly completed and that operations will then be resumed.

During the past few weeks, while plans in regard to the reorganization of the company have been under way, all kinds of rumors were afloat concerning the company upon which the prosperity of this city for the past decade has been principally founded. In fact some of them were wild in the extreme. Some of them were set afloat months ago, no doubt with a sinister motive and served to make the difficult work of the officials of the company the more difficult. The announcement of the receivership at the factory, Friday, however, set these stories started by idle tongues at rest and put the community's mind back in its normal path and now Alma has a firm conviction that the proposed plan of reorganization that is being worked out by the officials of the company being for the best interests of the Republic are naturally for the very best interests of the city. It is to be keenly regretted that such rumors and such idle speculation, which serve no good purpose, should be fostered on the community where it does a big damage not only to the company it affects, but also to the business men and residents of Alma generally. The main income of these people has, since the founding of the company about ten years ago, been closely associated with the prosperity and the wonderful business growth that came to the Republic as a result of the production of the world's best truck, and they are vitally interested in its welfare as a result.

INSTRUCTIONS IN SAFETY PLANNED

STATE IS PLANNING TO ISSUE PUBLISHED OUTLINE WITH ALL AUTO PLATES.

In furtherance of the state department of public safety's campaign to reduce automobile accidents, the department of state from now on will issue printed cards, illustrating the proper arm signals for turns and stops, and outlining a set of license plate instructions.

The illustrations show the arm should be held horizontally for a left turn, the fore arm should be bent up for a right turn, and the arm should be slanted downward at a sharp angle for a stop.

The following "auto suggestions" appear on the card:

Be sure you possess a correct title for your car. The law requires it.

Do not drive without your identification card and your driver's license.

The law requires every operator of a motor vehicle to possess an operator's license. Chauffeurs require both operator's and chauffeur's licenses. Violations are punishable by fine or imprisonment. A person must be 14 years of age to procure an operator's license and 18 to obtain a chauffeur's license.

The law requires that all license plates shall be kept clean and plainly visible for a distance of 30 feet.

Do not take chances in passing other vehicles. Sound a warning before you pass. Give the other fellow a chance. You may avoid a bad accident and possible death by taking just a few seconds more time on the road.

Hold out your hand when you stop or turn, whether in the city or country. It is a simple thing to do and may prevent an accident. The driver behind you is not a mind reader.

Do not overlook your lamp equipment. The law requires two front and one tail light.

Drive carefully. The graveyards are filling with reckless drivers and their victims.

MANY SAW SHOW
Nearly 2,000 people attended the free show at the Strand theatre last Saturday, which was given from 1:30 until 2:30 for the benefit of the patrons of the Alma business men. Right at the start the new idea proved popular, as is indicated by the number that attended the first free number. A high grade picture was shown for the visitors who were well pleased with it.

Manager Miller has arranged for another real attraction for this coming Saturday and he is anticipating that there will be a still bigger demand for seats this coming Saturday afternoon as more people hear of the free shows that are being given for the farmers and others by the Alma merchants each Saturday afternoon.

Miss Helen B. Huff will give piano lessons in Alma College. Call Miss Grace Roberts at Wright Hall—advertisement.

There is no denying the fact that it has been the success of The Republic Motor Truck Co. Inc., that saw Alma forge from a country town of 2,754 people ten years ago to a prosperous city of 7,542. Not only has the Republic been a big boom to Alma, but it has also proven a real aid to St. Louis, which gained materially from the Republic's business success, and which naturally is (Continued on page two)

"The Tale Bearer"—Just a Little Sermon for Today

Shears and Paste Bring Forth From the Exchange a Timely Thought We Pondered Over and We Now Pass It On.

Gossips, talebearers, the unthinking passers-on of rumor, report and scandal, are the mediums through which the malicious and self-interested get publicity and thus give effect to their malice and intents. In modern life, a man's or an institution's reputation is his or its basic asset, the foundation upon which all social and business relationship rest. A good reputation is not easily won; it is the reward of fair dealing, of conformity. But it is easily destroyed—too easily; it may be blown out with a breath, a word. The power to destroy a thing so fragile, yet so precious, by right belongs to considered judgment and not to the caprice. The Greeks, who employed ostracism, banishment, in punishment for major offenses against their society, exercised this power sparingly, made its use a subject of popular vote after days and even weeks of deliberation. Yet today the scandal-monger, with the help of the talebearer and the gossip, easily employs this power toward the practical banishment of all and any who excite his envy or passion, or whose destruction serves his interest. Men have tolerated the gossip and the talebearer for ages, have regarded them as nuisances rather than enemies of society. In low stages of culture man derives pleasure from gossip, just as he derives pleasure when he sees a fellow man slip on a banana peel. When a man

gossips, he worships at the shrine of his own ego, indulges in unconscious and indirect praise of his own propriety. He is eager to bear witness to his fellows that he is not as others, he is a pharisee. Or, he seeks the excitement and interest which centers around the bearer of news; and news, he has discovered, is mostly bad news, something which affords his hearers an opportunity to compare their own security or probity to that of the unfortunate subjects of the news. The non-conformists, the men who deride standards—measures by which man judges man—care nothing for reputations or for the institutions which form character and establish a basis for confident intercourse between men. Conformity is not always desirable, men have different ideas about the form that should be given to many things, but there can be no difference on fundamental morality, nor can non-conformists successfully ignore custom and method in the operation of the established order. Man seeks the society of or does business with those who recognize the validity and usefulness of the institutions and customs to which he gives his own allegiance. For the most part these institutions are erected on the basis of trial and error, on experience, and take their validity from common consent. They are fixed or changing, they are the foundations upon which man must stand in order to hold the confidence and regard of his fellows. Habit, ways of doing

things, fixed ideas, are necessary; without them man would have no sense of mental or moral direction, would run around in circles. The liberated minds, the minds which soar above the mass to heights from which they can look down upon the engaged, seldom stay aloft—if they are sane minds. They come back to conformity, sometimes with a purpose to "bore from within"; but more often they come back because they have seen that the heaven which is working in the mass is wiser than they. The man who wins a reputation for conformity to the rules which have been established for the game of life is entitled to hold that place as long as he continues to play these rules. Any dereliction with which he may be charged should be proved beyond question. Mere gossip or report should be ignored, and no man who plays by the rules himself will pass along gossip or rumors which are likely to undermine the confidence of the community in other men or institutions. Interested persons owe themselves a duty to investigate all reports and rumors concerning matters which involve their own welfare, but no man should repeat idle gossip or malicious rumor until he is sure of the facts, and even then he should exercise with the greatest caution and with due regard for the consequences the power for the punishment of individuals or institutions which is placed in his hands—Exchange.

NOTICE

Telephone bills are due, and payable the first of every month. Pay on or before the 20th, and save 10%. The Union Telephone Co.